# Weekly Market Summary

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Matt Blunt, Governor

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### MISSOURI WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE WEIGHTED AVERAGE REPORT

Receipts 43,006; Week ago 31,910; Year ago 22,171 Medium and Large 1 (Medium Flesh)

Fdr. S	TEERS:	Fdr. H	EIFERS:	Hols.	<u>STEERS</u>
352lbs.	135.86	354 lbs.	117.26	346 lbs.	90.42
456 lbs.	127.69	457 lbs.	112.76	487 lbs.	81.85
559 lbs.	118.84	556 lbs.	103.74	565 lbs.	77.58
654 lbs.	105.74	649 lbs.	96.03	622 lbs.	75.60
748 lbs.	98.23	737 lbs.	91.22	753 lbs.	73.01
844 lbs.	95.24	834 lbs.	89.27	848 lbs.	71.06
938 lbs.	92.21			960 lbs.	69.25

#### SOUTHERN MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(West Plains, Gainesville)

Receipts: 6650; Week ago 8109; Year ago 765 Compared to last week, steers under 600 lbs 2.00 to 10.00 higher, over 600 lbs 2.00 lower to 2.00 higher. Slaughter cows steady to 2.00 higher, Bulls steady.

STEERS:		<u>HEIFERS</u> :	
Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1	
	8	:	
300-400 lbs.	130.00-140.00	300-400 lbs.	114.00-118.00
400-500 lbs.	123.00-140.00	400-500 lbs.	105.00-117.00
500-550 lbs.	118.50-127.50	500-550 lbs.	100.00-112.00
550-600 lbs.	109.50-116.50	550-600 lbs.	93.50-106.00
600-700 lbs.	100.00-111.00	600-700 lbs.	88.50-94.00
700-800 lbs.	92.00-101.25	700-860 lbs.	84.00-91.75
800-900 lbs.	92.00-96.00		
Large 3	Holsteins	SLAUGHTER C	COWS:

		Breaking and Boning (70-85%
Pkg 294 lbs.	92.00	lean) 46.00-54.00, high dressing
Pkg 377 lbs.	80.00	51.00-61.50. Lean (85-90%)
Pkg 743 lbs.	69.50	41.00-47.00, low dressing 28.00-
Pkg 977 lbs.		40.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2, 1400-2100 lbs 61.00-68.50, high dressing 70.00-73.50, low dressing 55.00-60.00.

COW & CALF PAIRS: Medium and Large 1-2 2-3 yrs, 850-1100 lbs, some bred back, calves 200-300 lbs, 1025.00-1110.00 per pair.

REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2 2-7 yrs, 950-1330 lbs, 2nd and 3rd stage, 700.00-900.00 per head, few single 2nd stage 630.00-720.00. Short solid 1050-1250 lbs, 2nd and 3rd stage, 550.00-700.00, broken mouth, 1100-1185 lbs 3rd stage 525.00-630.00 per head.

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#### SOUTHWEST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Joplin and Springfield)

Feeder Cattle Receipts 10,940; week ago 7892; year ago 5013 Cow and Bull Receipts 2144; week ago 1626; year ago 1728 Compared to last week, Feeder steers under 700 lbs steady to 2.00 to 4.00 higher, over 700 lbs steady to 2.00 higher, heifers under 600 lbs 4.00 to 8.00 higher, over 600 lbs steady to 3.00 higher. Slaughter cows 1.00 to 3.00 higher, bulls steady to 2.00 higher

STEERS:		<u>HEIFERS</u> :	
Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1	
300-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs. 800-900 lbs.	135.00-145.00 117.00-138.00 108.00-128.00 99.00-117.00 95.00-106.00 92.25-96.50	300-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs. 800-900 lbs.	120.00-127.00 105.00-126.00 94.00-114.00 91.50-102.00 87.00-92.50 86.50-88.50
	TEINS: Frame 3 Scarce 85.00-97.00 Scarce 75.00-85.00 74.00-79.50 72.50-77.00 70.00-72.00	and Boning (70- 52.50, high dress Lean (85-90%) 4 dressing 31.00-4 <u>SLAUGHTER F</u> Grade 1-2, 1245	<u>BULLS:</u> Yield -2410 lbs 60.00- sing 66.50-74.50,
REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2, 2 yrs to ss, 1050-1380 lbs, 2nd and 3rd stage 650.00-860.00, more attrac- tive and larger lots 885.00- 1025.00 per head.		COW & CALF F and Large 1-2, 2 1350 lbs. with ba calves, some rebi 1300.00 per pair.	to 7 yrs, 1075- aby to 350 lb red 860.00-

#### NORTHWEST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Maryville, St Joe)

Receipts: 7596, Week ago 867, Year ago 2732

Feeder steers and heifers steady to 3.00 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls steady to 3.00 higher.

FEEDER STEERS: Medium and Large 1		<u>FEEDER HEIFERS</u> : Medium and Large 1	
400-500 lbs.	118.50-136.00		109.50-117.50
500-600 lbs.	111.00-124.00	500-600 lbs.	95.00-112.75
600-700 lbs.	100.00-112.35	600-700 lbs.	90.00-101.85
700-800 lbs.	94.60-102.50	700-800 lbs.	89.00-94.50
800-900 lbs.	93.35-97.00	800-900 lbs.	88.50-89.75
900-1000 lbs.	91.00-94.50	900-1000 lbs.	Scarce
REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium		SLAUGHTER COWS: Breaking	
and Large 1 3 to 6 yrs 1060-1400		and Boning (70-85% lean) 45.00-	
lbs average quality mixed colored		52.00, high dressing 50.00-55.00,	

3rd stage 900.00-1060.00 per head. Lean (85-90%) 35.00-45.00.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: Select and Choice 2-3 84.00-87.35 SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: Select and Choice 2-3 84.00-87.00 <u>SLAUGHTER BULLS:</u> Yield Grade 1-2, 1600-2300 lbs. 58.00-64.00, high dressing 63.00-65.00, low dressing 53.00-56.00..

#### WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Sedalia, Kingsville, Passaic)

Receipts 6105; Week ago 2762; Year ago 2888

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers under 500 lbs 2.00 to 9.00 higher, over 500 lbs steady to 7.00 higher. Slaughter cows mixed 2.00 lower to 3.00 higher.

FEEDER STEERS: Medium and Large 1& 1-2	FEEDER HEIFERS: Medium and Large 1 & 1-2

300-400 lbs	124.00-150.00	300-400 lbs.	106.00-122.50
400-500 lbs.	113.00-139.00		97.50-114.50
500-600 lbs.	105.00-130.00	500-600 lbs.	95.00-119.00
600-700 lbs.	94.250115.00		87.50-108.50
700-800 lbs.	93.25-100.75		85.50-95.00
800-900 lbs.	89.50-97.00	800-900 lbs.	85.75-93.00

REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2 1 1 yr to ss, 845-1475 lbs., 2nd and 3rd stage, 650.00-1200.00

**SLAUGHTER COWS:** Breaking and Boning (75-85% lean) 45.00-53.50, High dressing 50.00-61.50, Lean (85-90%) 45.00-51.00, Low dressing 38.00-45.50.

and Large 1-2 2 yrs to ss 950-1460 Grade 1-2, 1150-2265 lbs 54.00-lbs with 130-165 lb calves 850.00- 68.50, high dressing 60.50.73.73

68.50, high dressing 69.50-72.50,

#### EAST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Bowling Green, Kingdom City, Boonville) Receipts: 4312; Week ago 5012; Year ago 3770

Compared to last week feeder steers and heifers under 650 lbs 3.00 to 10.00 higher, over 650 lbs steady to 5.00 higher. Slaughter cows firm to 2.00 higher.

<u>FEEDER STEERS:</u>		FEEDER HEIFERS:	
Medium and Large 1& 1-2		Medium and Large 1 & 1-2	
350-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs.	Scarce 122.00-135.00 105.00-130.00 96.50-115.50 94.50-100.90	350-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs	Scarce 105.00-122.00 96.00-115.00 91.50-109.00 88.25-92.25
800-900 lbs.  SLAUGHTER ST and Choice 2-4 83 high dressing 90.0	5.00-90.00, few	Boning, and Lea	h dressing 52.00-
SLAUGHTER HI		SLAUGHTER E	BULLS: Yield
and Choice 2-4 85		Grade 1-2, 1450	-2050 lbs, 57.00-

#### NORTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Palmyra, Green City, New Cambria, Macon) Feeder Cattle Receipts 2944; week ago 5529; year ago 2139 Slaughter Cattle Receipts 60; week ago 50; year ago 40 Feeder steers and heifers 2.00 to 4.00 higher. Slaughter cows 1.00 to 3.00 lower. Slaughter Steers and Heifers 1.00 to 2.00 higher.

<u>EIFERS</u> :
Large 1-2
]

300-400 lbs.	Scarce	300-400 lbs.	114.50-122.00
400-500 lbs.	121.00-134.00	400-500 lbs.	105.00-119.50
500-600 lbs.	111.00-126.50	500-600 lbs.	96.50-109.50
600-700 lbs.	104.00-117.75		93.50-106.00
700-800 lbs.	94.50-100.25	700-800 lbs.	93.25-95.50
800-900 lbs.	95.00-100.10		90.75
		:	

SLAUGHTER STEERS: Choice 2-3 1100-1500 lbs 89.00-90.75

high dressing 89.00-90.00.

SLAUGHTER COWS: Breaking and Boning (75-85% lean) 45.00-51.50, low dressing 40.50-45.00

68.50, ind high dressing 75.00.

<u>SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:</u> Choice 2-3 1000-1350 lbs 88.75-90.90

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2, 1300-2550 lbs 60.00-

COW & CALF PAIRS: Scarce.

REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2 Scarce

#### SOUTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Fruitland, Patton)

Receipts 1759; Week ago: 1859; Year ago 1379

Compared to last week steers and heifers 3.00 to 7.00 higher. Slaughter cows 1.00 higher and bulls 1.00 lower.

<u>FEEDER STEERS:</u> Medium and Large 1-2		<u>FEEDER HEIFERS</u> : Medium and Large 1-2	
300-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs.	115.00-128.00 107.00-128.00 100.50-119.00 90.00-105.00 87.00-96.00	400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs.	101.00-115.00 96.00-111.00 86.00-100.50 84.25-95.00 80.00-92.00
REPLACEMENT Medium and Lar 895-1315 lbs 2nd 625.00-700.00 pe	ge 1-2, 4 to 7 yrs I and 3rd stage	SLAUGHTER C and boning (75-8 48.75; high dress Lean 31.25-36.7	35% lean) 41.25- sing 48.25-54.25,
COW & CALF PAIR: Medium and Large 1-2 Scarce		SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2, 1370-2660 lbs, 54.25- 55.00, high dressing 62.50, low dressing 47.00	

#### SOUTH CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Cuba, Vienna)

Receipts: 3976, Week ago 894, Year ago 2637

Compared to last week feeder steers and heifers under 600 lbs 4.00 to 10.00 higher, over 600 lbs steady to 2.00 higher. Slaughter cows steady to 2.00 higher.

Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1	
300-400 lbs.	123.00-139.00	300-400 lbs.	112.00-122.50
400-500 lbs.	120.00-136.00	400-500 lbs.	104.00-117.00
500-600 lbs.	108.00-128.00	500-600 lbs.	96.00-115.00
600-700 lbs.	95.25-109.25	600-700 lbs.	90.00-102.50
700-800 lbs.	92.00-98.00	700-800 lbs.	85.00-92.25

REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2 yearling to 5 yrs. 925-1125 lbs 3rd stage 800.00-920.00

FEEDER STEERS:

SLAUGHTER COWS: Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 48.00-53.00, Lean (85-90%) 44.00-50.00, low dressing 36.00-44.00

FEEDER HEIFERS:

COW & CALF PAIRS: Medium and Large 1-2 2 to 5 yrs 875-1075 lbs with baby to 275 lb calves 835.00-975.00 per pair

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2, 1400-2200 lbs, 62.00-68.00, low dressing 54.00-59.00

#### MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT SLAUGHTER CATTLE REPORT

Weekly Receipts 400; Week ago 600; Year ago 1000 Compared to last week, trade very slow, few live sales steady, dressed sales on grid basis not tested.

STEERS: few 50-60% Choice 1250-1300 lbs 90.00 late last Friday.	STEERS AND HEIFERS: Carcass sales: Load 70% Choice 145.00
HEIFERS: No Sales.	GRADE AND WEIGHT (Grid): Choice 3 550-950 lbs. No confirmed sales

#### INTERIOR MISSOURI DIRECT HOGS

Weekly Receipts 9037, Week ago 6685; Year ago 5020 Compared to last weeks close barrows and gilts steady to 4.00 lower. Sows 1.00 lower to 1.00 higher.

BARROWS AND GILTS:	SOV
D	200

300-500 lbs 30.00-33.00 Base carcass meat price 56.00-Over 500 lbs 34.00-36.00 58.00. Weeks top Wed. 62.00

#### MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT WEANER AND FEEDER PIG REPORT

Receipts: 11,084

Compared to last week, weaner pigs steady and feeder pigs not tested.

Supply and Demand Moderate.

All pig prices based on a delivered basis including freight and fees.

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights Delivered 80% formulated 11,084 head 10 lbs 33.00-47.00, weighted average 10 lbs 38.59

Feeder pigs 40-50 base weights Delivered 0 % formulated No sales reported

#### WHOLESALE FEEDSTUFFS PRICES (DOLLARS PER TON-BULK BASIS)

Area	Soybean Meal 48% Solvent	Cottonseed Meal 41% Solvent	Meat Meal	Wheat Middlings
Kansas City	227.10	206.25	200.00	152.50
St. Louis	234.00	210.50	215.00	139.00

Missouri Weekly Hay Summary

Above average temperatures come to the state this week thawing out ice and melting snow. All the warm weather has made for a lot of standing water and mud for farmers to battle while feeding. So far the demand for hay is good as green up is a few weeks away and it will take some time before grass can get ahead of the cattle, but hopes are that the worst of winter is past us. The supply of hay is light, demand is good, and prices steady. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay hotline available for buyers and sellers. To be listed, or for a directory, call 1-800-877-4HAY(4429).(All prices per ton unless Supreme quality Alfalfa(RFV>185) 140.00-175.00 premium quality Alfalfa(RFV170-180) 140.00-175.00 Fair to Good quality Alfalfa (RFV130-170) Round bales 80.00-140.00 Small, Big squares 100.00-180.00 Good quality mixed Alfalfa and grass small square bales 3.00-6.00 per bale, 40.00-75.00 per large round bale Good to Premium quality Prairie hay small squares 80.00-125.00, Fair to good quality Prairie hay 50.00-75.00, Premium Quality Brome large Squares 90.00-140.00 Good quality Brome 50.00-80.00 Fair quality Brome and mixed with grass round bales 25.00-50.00. Good quality Timothy Hay 3.00-4.50 per small square bale, Good quality Mixed Grass hay 25.00-75.00 per round bale. Fair to good quality bluestem 40.00 per round bale, Fair to good quality millet/sudan grass round bale 50.00-55.00, Fair to good quality Bermuda grass 65.00 per round bale Wheat hay 50.00-70.00, Wheat straw 1.75-3.50 per small bale. Corn stalks 20.00-25.00 per large round bale.

**Dairy Cattle Sales** 

Dairy Cattle Receipts 1116, (Norwood 2/08/07) Springer Heifers, Supreme 1625.00-1925.00, Approved 1250.00-1575.00, Medium 900.00-1200.00, Common 535.00-885.00, Bred 4-6 months: Supreme 1650.00-1885.00, Approved 1300.00-1600.00, Medium 800.00-1275.00. Open Heifers: Approved 300-400 lbs 850.00-940.00, 400-500 lbs 885.00-910.00, 500-600 lbs 960.00-1050.00, 600-700 lbs 1100.00-1200.00, 700-800 lbs 1100.00-1250.00. Calves: Holstein Heifers 350.00-620.00, Holstein Bulls 70.00-150.00, Crossbred Bulls 30.00-120.00.

#### White Sheep and Goat Sale

(Diamond 02/01/2007) Receipts: 774 Last Month: 1483 Goats: Slaughter Classes: Kids: Selection 1 50-60 lbs 119.00-125.50,

60-70 lbs 112.00-122.00, 70-80 lbs 110.00-116.00, Selection 2-3 50-60 lbs 90.00-107.00. Does/Nannies: Selection 1 108-120 lbs 55.00-65.00, Selection 2 50.00-67.50, Selection 3 50.00-57.00. Slaughter Billies: Selection 3 95-105 lbs 69.00-75.00, 125-150 lbs 58.00-66.00. Replacement Classes: Does/Nannies Selection 1 50-105 lbs 65.00-77.50 per head, Selection 2 59.00-72.50, Selection 3 62.50-75.00 per head. Selection 1-2 young springers 65.00-80.00 per head. Boer Billies reg 135.00-200.00, per head. Feeder Kids: Selection 1 20-30 lbs 116.00, 30-40 lbs 115.00-126.00; 40-50 lbs 115.00-120.00. Selection 2 20-30 lbs 102.50, 30-40 lbs 130.00, Selection 3 40-50 lbs 90.00-120.00. Sheep: Slaughter Lambs: Choice 1-2 wooled 70-80 lbs 122.00, Hair 121.00-123.00. Feeder Lambs: Medium 1-2 hair 20-30 lbs 90.00. Slaughter Ewes: Utility and Good 1-3 152-165 lbs 40.00-45.00, cull 108-135 lbs 24.00-32.50. Replacement Ewes: Dorper cross 148-195 lbs 37.00-52.00. (all prices per cwt unless specified)

#### WEEKLY COMMODITY GRAIN FUTURES TRENDS

Compared to last Friday: Soybeans .11 to .14 higher, Wheat .13 to .17 higher, Corn .07 to .15 higher, KC Wheat .08 to .12 higher, Soybean meal 1.60 to 3.20 higher.

Daily Grain Futures Closes

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Soybeans Mar May Jul Aug Sep	Holiday	771 787 801 805 3/4 811	781 1/4 798 811 3/4 816 821	783 3/4 800 1/2 815.1/4 821 825 1/2	778 1/4 794 809 813 818 1/2
Wheat Mar May Jul Sep Dec	Holiday	464 1/2 478 487 1/4 493 1/2 502 1/2	476 490 1/2 499 3/4 505 1/2 515	489 1/2 502 511 1/2 517 527	484 1/4 498 1/2 508 3/4 514 3/4 529 1/2
Corn Mar May Jul Sep Dec	Holiday	415 1/4 428 1/4 437 3/4 423 3/4 413 1/4	426 1/4 439 448 1/4 433 1/2 423	434 1/2 447 1/2 457 440 3/4 427 3/4	430 1/4 442 1/2 452 435 1/2 420 3/4
KC Wheat Mar May Jul Sep Dec	Holiday	493 502 1/2 504 1/4 511 519	501 3/4 510 511 1.2 517 1/4 526	511 1/2 519 1/2 523 528 537 1/4	506 1/2 515 519 1/2 525 1/2 534 1/2
SB Meal Mar May Jul Aug Sep	Holiday	230.60 236.10 240.40 242.10 243.60	231.30 237.20 241.60 243.60 245.20	231.40 238.10 243.00 244.70 246.50	228.90 234.90 239.60 241.10 242.50

#### WEEKLY COMMODITY FUTURES TREND

Compared to last Friday: Live Cattle .27 to 1.20 higher, except April .20 lower, Lean Hogs 1.00 to 1.75 lower, Pork Bellies .50 to 5.58 higher, Feeder Cattle mixed .85 lower to .55 higher.

Daily Futures Closes

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Cattle Feb Apr Jun Aug Oct	Holiday	92.67 95.35 92.57 89.95 93.55	93.75 96.40 93.67 90.72 94.47	93.47 96.22 93.95 90.87 94.55	94.17 96.17 94.15 91.17 94.67
Lean Hogs Apr May Jun Jul Aug	Holiday	66.85 76.12 76.95 76.75 75.57	66.97 76.52 77.17 77.30 76.47	67.02 76.75 76.95 77.02 76.25	66.75 76.57 76.40 76.47 76.25
Prk Bel Feb Mar May Jul Aug	Holiday	100.75 101.50 103.34 104.70 103.20	103.75 104.50 106.00 105.30 104.00	106.75 105.00 106.90 107.02 104.00	107.10 104.57 105.90 106.50 104.00
Fdr Cat Mar Apr May Aug Sep	Holiday	99.62 100.65 102.15 102.77 101.50	100.02 101.30 102.60 103.15 102.30	99.25 101.22 102.85 103.22 102.65	99.32 101.92 103.42 103.40 102.40
Milk Feb Mar Apr	Holiday	14.35 14.60 14.90	14.38 14.67 14.98	14.39 14.75 14.91	14.17 14.62 14.72

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## Market News Hotline 1-573-522-9244

**February 23, 2007** 

#### MISSOURI GRAIN WEEKLY TRENDS

Soybeans .05 to .13 higher Wheat .11 to .16 higher Corn .12 to .16 higher Grain Sorghum .23 higher

Weekly Missouri Selected Cash Grain Bids

A	//1 C . 1	//2 G - G	//2 C	//2 C i.u
Area	#1 Soybean	#2 Soft Wheat	#2 Corn	#2 Grain Sorghum
Kansas City Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Holiday 7.34 7.44 7.47 7.41	3.53 3.62 3.72 3.67	4.00-4.02 4.11-4.13 4.20-4.22 4.15-4.17	6.73 6.98 7.14 7.05
St. Louis Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Holiday 7.58-7.67 7.67-7.73 7.74-7.76 7.67-7.70	4.35 4.46 4.60 4.54	4.21-4.22 4.31-4.32 4.41 4.36	7.37 7.57 7.73 7.64
Central Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Holiday 7.18 7.28 7.20-7.31 7.18-7.25	3.65 3.76 3.89-4.05 3.84-4.05	3.88 3.99 4.07-4.10 4.36	n/a 6.67 6.57-6.82 6.57-6.75
S.E. MO Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Holiday 7.61-7.67 7.64-7.72 7.67-7.74 7.60-7.67	4.34-4.42 4.46-4.54 4.59-4.68 4.54-4.63	4.13-4.20 4.22-4.28 4.32-4.37 4.26-4.33	7.35-7.55 7.42-7.75 7.57-7.89 7.48-7.82

(PRICES PER BU. EXCEPT GR. SORG. PER CWT) \*NEW CROP

#### **USDA Evaluates 2007 Planting Intentions**

How many acres of Missouri's major crops do farmers intend to plant this growing season? How much will rising grain prices affect producer's planting decisions? Will intended acreage be above or below last year? These are a few of the critical questions the Missouri Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be asking more than 3,000 producers statewide as part of the March Agricultural Survey. "This survey is one of the most important surveys conducted each year by NASS," explained Gene Danekas, director of the NASS Missouri Field Office. "It will provide the much anticipated first official estimates of U.S. farmers' planting intentions for 2007, giving a glimpse at the upcoming growing season in time for producers to have a final opportunity to re-evaluate their operation." "Data from the March Agricultural Survey benefit farmers and ranchers by providing timely and accurate information to help them make critical decisions for their operation. When finalizing cropping and marketing plans, this survey will be one of the most important sources of information for producers," added Danekas. Beginning the end of February, selected Missouri producers will be contacted by mail or telephone and asked to provide information on the crop acreage they intend to plant for the 2007 crop year, including corn, soybean, sorghum, rice, and cotton acreage. NASS will also collect data on quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on-farms. The information will be compiled and analyzed then published in a series of USDA reports, including the Prospective Plantings report and quarterly Grain Stocks report, both to be released on March 30.As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Danekas.